Snp 2.1 — Ratana Sutta — Discourse on the Precious Jewel

English translation by Bhikkhu Candana.
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Layout: Physical wraps reflowed; proven printed folios omitted; source wording retained.
Review: Full automatic text-layer comparison plus visual samples; not a complete human proofread.

Text

Snp. 2.1

Ratana Sutta

“Discourse on the Precious Jewel”

222. “Whatever non-human beings that are assembled here, whether terrestrial or celestial, may they all have peace of mind with contented hearts, as they listen attentively to these words:

223. “O! beings, listen closely: May you all radiate loving- kindness to those human beings who, by day and night, include you in their thoughts, dedicating to you the merits of their offerings. Therefore, watch over and protect them with diligence.

224. “Whatever treasures there may be in the cosmos, or in worlds beyond; whatever precious jewels there may be in the heavenly realms, nothing compares to the Tathāgata (the Perfected One). This precious jewel is the Buddha. By declaring this Truth, may there be safety.

225. “That destruction of grasping, that non-passionate state, that Deathlessness Supreme, the calm and collected Sākyan Sage had realized; nothing compares to Nibbāna. This precious jewel is the Dhamma. By declaring this Truth, may there be safety.

226. “The Supreme Buddha praised the pure Noble Eightfold Path, calling it the path which unfailingly establishes one in the collectedness of mind; nothing compares to this collectedness of mind. This precious jewel is the Dhamma. By declaring this Truth, may there be safety.

227. “The Eight Individuals are praised by the wise, and they constitute the four pairs. These are the true Disciples of the Buddha and are worthy of offerings. Gifts offered to them yield abundant results. This precious jewel is the Sangha. By declaring this Truth, may there be safety.

228. “With a steadfast mind, applying themselves well in the Dispensation of the Buddha Gautama, they are free from defilements; they have attained to that which should be attained (Arahantship) as they dwell in the Deathless. Thus, they enjoy the Peace that is Nibbāna, which is freely obtained. This precious jewel is the Sangha. By declaring this Truth, may there be safety.

229. “As a locking-post planted deeply into the earth stands unshaken by the winds from all four directions, so, too, I declare is the Superior Person, who sees and understands with wisdom the Four Noble Truths. This precious jewel is the Sangha. By declaring this Truth, may there be safety.

230. “Those who realized the Noble Truths well-taught by Him who is profound in wisdom (the Buddha), even if they become exceedingly heedless, still they would not take an eighth rebirth into Saṃsāra (the endless cycles of rebirth). This precious jewel is the Sangha. By declaring this Truth, may there be safety.

231. “With the gaining of Higher Wisdom, he abandons three states of mind; namely, the illusion of personality view, skeptical doubt, and adherence to rites and rituals as a means for Liberation. Thus, this person is wholly freed from rebirth into the four lower realms, and therefore, is incapable of committing the six major wrongdoings. This precious jewel is the Sangha. By declaring this Truth, may there be safety.

232. “Any evil action he may still commit, whether by deed, word, or thought, he is incapable of concealing it, since it has been proclaimed that such concealing is impossible for one who has seen the Path to Nibbāna. This precious jewel is the Sangha. By declaring this Truth, may there be safety.

233. “As the woodland groves, though in the early heat of the summer month, are crowned with blossoming flowers, even so is the sublime Dhamma that leads to the Peace of Nibbāna, which is taught by the Buddha for the highest good. This precious jewel is the Buddha. By declaring this Truth, may there be safety.

234. “The Peerless Excellent One (The Buddha), the Knower of Nibbāna, the Giver of Nibbāna, the Bringer of the Noble Path, taught us the excellent Dhamma. This precious jewel is the Buddha. By declaring this Truth, may there be safety.

235. “With their past kamma spent, and no more new kamma arising for them, their mind is no longer attached to future rebecoming, as the seed of the desire for rebirth has been scorched and dead; they now live with no craving for re-living. Such wise men fade out of

existence, much like the flame of this lamp which has just faded away. This precious jewel is the Sangha. By declaring this Truth, may there be safety.”

236. “Whatever non-human beings that are assembled here, whether terrestrial or celestial, come, let us all salute The Buddha, The Tathāgata (The Perfected One), honored and cherished by both Devas and humans. May there be safety.

237. “Whatever non-human beings that are assembled here, whether terrestrial or celestial, come, let us all salute the perfect Dhamma, honored and cherished by both Devas and humans. May there be safety.

238. “Whatever non-human beings that are assembled here, whether terrestrial or celestial, come, let us all salute the perfect Sangha, honored and cherished by both Devas and humans. May there be safety.”